

# Visiting Birds on New Cocos (Keeling) Stamps



The Cocos (Keeling) Islands comprise a group of 27 islands in two atolls. North Keeling Island is a single-island atoll, 24 kilometres north of the main atoll. Declared the Pulu Keeling National Park in 1995, its remoteness makes it a safe environment for many resident-breeding, migratory and vagrant birds—infrequent, perhaps accidental, visitors.

North Keeling is one of the few pristine islands in the vast Indian Ocean, and its wetland is an important habitat. Of the approximately 60 bird species observed at Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 24 have been recorded on North Keeling over the last 30 years.

A new stamp issue, part of a worldwide collection of World Wildlife Fund stamps from Cocos (Keeling) Islands depicts (left to right) two species of vagrant seabird, the Herald Petrel and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross, and two wader species, the Oriental

Pratincole and Little Curlew.

The issue is part of a worldwide collection of World Wildlife Fund releases and includes the WWF logo in the lower left of each stamp.

The Visiting Birds issue date is March 24, 2015. The stamps were designed by John White of the Australia Post Design Studio, working from illustrations by artist Owen Bell.

The stamps of Cocos (Keeling) Islands are issued under the auspices of Australia Post. Cocos Islands stamps are also valid in Australia.

The Visiting Birds stamp issue is available from March 24, 2015, at [www.auspost.com.au/stamps](http://www.auspost.com.au/stamps) or contact Australia Stamp Agency in North America toll free (USA and Canada) at 1-800-443-4225 while stocks last.